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WTHI TV has been a community leader for over 50 years. Since 1954 we have
provided the viewers of the Wabash Valley a variety of services and
entertainment. The following is not all inclusive but a snap shot of what is
provided. The major public service campaigns conducted by WTHI TV were and are:
United Cerebral Palsy Telethon, Share Your Thanksgiving food drive, the Gift of
Life blood drive, Riley Children?s Hospital CMN telethon. We have ran PSAs on
air campaigns for: AIDS, Alcohol Abuse, Anti-Crime, Anti-Violence, Breast Cancer
and Women?s health issues, Drunk Driving, Homeland Security, Fund raising drives
(Scouts, Jaycees, United Way, etc) and Drug abuseWTHI TV locally produced public
affairs programs or segments on Children?s issues (adoption, AMBER plan,
mentoring, etc.) Hunger/poverty/homelessness and fund raising drives.
WTHI TV aired news segments on AIDS, Alcohol Abuse, Adult education/literacy,
Anti-Crime (safety tips, Crime Watch, etc.), Anti-Smoking, Anti-Violence
(domestic abuse, school programs, etc.) Breast cancer and other women?s health
issues, Drinking during pregnancy, Drunk Driving, Drug Use and Abuse, Homeland
Security issues, Hunger/Poverty/Homelessness, and fund raising drives. \
Through on-air campaigns we also supplied aid to local victims of disasters
(tornado, fire and flood) and national needs (hurricanes). We pledged
approximately $85,500 to charitable causes or needy individuals, as well as
nearly 91,000 pond of food and over 500 pints of blood.
A list of major organizations that we helped included: Catholic Charities,
American Cancer Society, Community Blood Center, Goodwill, Habitat for humanity,
Lifeline, Mental health Association, Hamilton Center, United Way, Boys and Girls
Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Trees Inc., United Cerebral Palsy, Vincennes
University, Terre Haute Police Department, Vigo County Sheriff, Chamber of
Commerce, Terre Haute North High School.
During an average week we aired 76:10 second spots, 32:15 second spots. 44:30
second spots. Percentage of PSAs during the average week run: 9% from 6 AM to 12
noon. 8% from Noon to 6 PM. 8% from 6 PM to Midnight and 75% from Midnight to 6
AM. About 90% of the PSAs on our station concern local issues.
WTHI TV provides the Wabash Valley with almost 20% of the broadcast day
dedicated to local news coverage. 5 newscasts per day and 8 local segments cut
ins during national news coverage. The morning and midday newscasts provide
local interview segments of 4 minutes of live guest appearances ranging from all
of our public service support issues to garden growing. The United Way and the
participating agencies have fixed segment schedules each week. Our local
commitment to broadcast excellence is supported by our website that provides the
information that local research has found to be the most important to our
viewers, severe weather coverage. The website provides weather information, news
information and links to other sites. WTHI TV has directed many resources to the
acquisition and presentation of our on air weather information. Some of our
equipment is shared with our educational partners. Indiana State University used
our Doplar radar in the safety and security office as well as in the classroom.
Vincennes University also uses our Doplar radar and towercams in the classroom.
During times of severe weather, WTHI TV commits to providing warning information
over any programming, and we have preempted regular programming to provide up to
the minute coverage to keep our viewers safe. This has been a station goal for 4
years and is supported by the responses in our yearly research of viewer wants
and needs. WTHI TV participates on the AMBER alert and EAS systems committees.
Our staff has worked with the Indiana Broadcasters Association and local Civil
Defense, to design and implement procedures in our local area.
WTHI TV staff members are involved on boards and committees for many
organizations. United Way, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Crimestoppers and many
more. More information on many of the community outreach programs with more
detail include: Weather information via :30 spots to educate about weather
issues related to seasonal issues. Winter and the effects of the cold conditions
to cars, people, animals. Spring spots to prepare for severe weather (tornados,
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thunderstorms, high winds), summer spots to address the heat related issues. WTHI TV also produces 30 minute local weather shows to address the change of seasons and how to prepare for them. Share Your Thanksgiving is an event that WTHI TV has been doing for 20 years. We use our staff and on air resources to generate a food drive to help fill the local food banks and soup kitchens during the holiday season. WTHI TV is also involved in many other community issues and provides a forum via Community news. This 30 second spot runs during all day parts and provides information supplied to us by our viewers via mail, phone, e mail and brochures. It is also supported on our web page.

Rod Garvin